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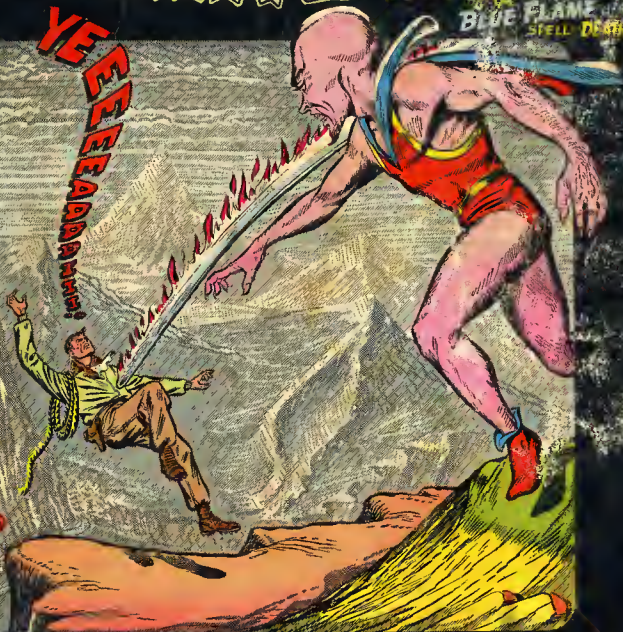
# ADVENTURES INTO THE

AMERICAN  
SINCE 1939  
**466**

# UNKNOWN!

**YE  
EE  
EE  
AA  
AA  
AA!**

**THE BLUE FLAME  
STILL DEATH?**



HARRY  
LAZARU





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WHO CAN SAY WHERE IMAGINATION STOPS--AND REALITY STARTS? DID A KILLER'S  
WARPED FANCY CONJURE UP AN AWFUL IMAGE--OR WAS IT SOME GRIM SUPERNATURAL  
BEING BENT ON VENGEANCE? SEE THE AWFUL ANSWER COME ALIVE IN--

# DEATH DIVE



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ABOARD A TREASURE-HUNTING SHIP --

MAYBE THAT GALLEON  
DID GO DOWN 200  
YEARS AGO-- BUT I THINK  
WE'VE FOUND IT, STEVE--  
WITH ALL THAT GOLD!

IS MONEY ALL  
YOU THINK ABOUT,  
MURPH? WHERE'S  
YOUR SPIRIT OF  
ADVENTURE?



YOU CAN HAVE  
ALL THE ADVENTURE  
FOR THIS TEAM--  
I'LL TAKE THE  
DOUGH!

LET'S GET IT UP  
FIRST! AS USUAL--  
IT'LL BE AN EVEN  
SPLIT!



IT HAD BEEN A LONG PULL--BUT AT LAST,  
IT WAS PAYING OFF!

LOOK AT THE FOOL,  
ADMIRIN' THE SCENERY!  
ME, IT'S THIS STUFF I'M  
INTERESTED IN! AN' I'M NOT  
SPLITTIN' IT WITH ANYBODY!



THERE! HIS AIR  
HOSE IS CUT-- AN'  
WHO'S TO SAY IT  
WASN'T RIPPEO ON  
THE CORAL?



HA-HA--IT'S GOT YA,  
HUH? AN' ALL I GOTTA  
DO IS GO TOPSIDE AN'  
MAKE WITH THE GRIEF--



YES--THE LAST THING MURPH SAW WAS STEVE'S  
FACE, GROTESQUE AS HE GASPED HOPELESSLY  
FOR BREATH--AND UP ABOVE--

THERE--THERE WAS THIS  
SHARP HUNK O' CORAL--  
IT SHEARED RIGHT THROUGH  
HIS HOSE, POOR GUY!



LATER --

THEY EVEN BELIEVED ME WHEN  
I SAID THERE WASN'T ANY GOLD!  
I'LL COME BACK IN A FEW MONTHS--  
AN' IT'LL BE *MINE!*



DAYS LATER, DRAWN BY A PECULIAR RESTLESSNESS,  
MURPH PACED THE SHORE--

SOMETHIN'S MOVIN' IN  
THE WATER! WHO EVER  
HEARD O' BIG FISH GETTIN'  
IN *THIS* CLOSE?



OH, NO--NO! IT CAN'T  
BE-- STEVE! YOU'RE  
*D-DEAD--* I  
KILLED YOU!



I-I WON'T LET IT  
GET ME--GOTTA GET  
AWAY-- *HELP!*



PACKING FRANTICALLY, MURPH BOARDED A  
PLANE FOR KEY WEST

IF IT MUSTA BEEN  
MY IMAGINATION  
DEAD MEN DON'T  
COME BACK 'SURE  
I WAS JUST  
NERVOUS



OH, GOOD  
HEAVENS, IT'S  
*SEAWEED!*  
NO--HE CAN'T  
BE *HERE--*







AT FIRST, THERE WAS NOTHING BUT THE GLOOMY  
DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN! BUT THEN--



INSANE WITH PANIC, MURPH STRUCK OUT  
BLINDLY--



MURPH'S NERVE WAS COMPLETELY GONE NOW! HE TURNED TO DRINK--

BUT WAS IT IMAGINATION THAT NIGHT-- THE CREAKING OF HIS DOOR

I THINK YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH, PAL!

NOT ENOUGH TO KEEP ME-- FROM SEEN' THINGS!



BUT IT'S NOT A DREAM! GET BACK-- DON'T TOUCH ME!



BUT MURPH'S LUCK HADN'T RUN OUT YET! HIS INJURIES WERE MINOR--

WHEN HE EMERGED FROM THE HOSPITAL

TAKE IT AWAY! IT'S COLD-- SLIMY--

FULLA LIQUOR-- BUT THAT STRAIGHTJACKET SHOULD QUIET HIM DOWN!

MAYBE I'M OKAY NOW-- MAYBE THERE WAS NOTHIN' WRONG BUT NERVES--





BUT STILL HE DRANK TO DROWN OUT HIS FEAR--AND AS THE MONTHS PASSED--

DOWN TO MY  
LAST TEN BUCKS--  
I--I GOTTA GET  
DOUGH!

HEY! WHERE  
YOU GOING?

ONLY ONE THING TO DO--  
GET THE GOLD! I  
AIN'T SEEN THAT AWFUL  
THING IN 3 MONTHS--  
IT MIGHT BE GONE  
FOR GOOD!

--AND I KNOW  
THE GOLD'S THERE!  
I'LL GIVE YOU  
HALF!

BEAT IT! I'D  
HAVE TO BE NUTS  
TO BELIEVE A  
RUMMY'S STORY!

I GOT NOTHIN' TO  
LOSE-- MY BOAT'S IDLE  
ANYWAY! I'LL GIVE  
IT A TRY!

WE'RE AT THE SPOT  
YOU SAID!

I'M GONNA HAFTA  
DIVE-- MAYBE THIS'LL  
GIVE ME THE COURAGE!  
I GOTTA GO THROUGH  
WITH IT!

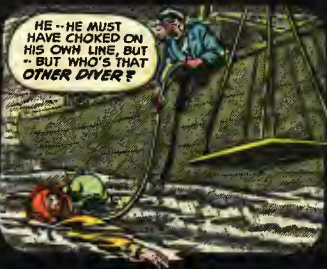
SENSES NUMBED BY DRINK, MURPH SANK  
INTO THE MURKY DEPTHS--

NOTHIN' HERE--  
THAT GHOST IS GONE!  
THE GOLD'S WAITIN'  
FOR ME-- ALL MINE!





When MURPH WAS FINALLY HAULED UP..



7

WAS IT THE SKELETON OF THE MAN MURPH  
HAD KILLED? AND HAD IT HAUNTED THE  
SLAYER--LURING HIM FINALLY TO AN  
AWFUL DEATH? FACT OR IMAGINA-  
TION-- WHICH?



# WITCH *at* MIDNIGHT

WHEN ROBERT STEVENS was found with his throat torn asunder, it was obvious, the townspeople claimed, that Tom Andrews was the killer. For hadn't the two men fought over Sally Flint, who favored Tom? So Tom Andrews was jailed, but fearing the mounting feeling against him, managed to escape. No trace of him could be found...unless it was in the grim trail of murders that followed his jailbreak.

Old Henry Manners, the town's sole detective, was assigned the case. He studied the four murders carefully. In each case, a member of an old family, with death at Friday midnight from a mangled throat. And in each case, a large black cat had been observed in the neighborhood. In old Henry's estimation, it didn't add up to Tom Andrews...unless Tom had turned into a homicidal maniac. "You can't think that," moaned Sally. "Why, he's really broken up about all these deaths!"

Henry didn't say anything...just started piecing his facts together. Friday midnight...wasn't that the time when supernatural beings were at their most deadly? Probably nonsense...but how about that black cat? It seemed that he'd heard of such beasts...known as *familiars*...as the companions of witches! And so he visited the local library and searched among the archives for records of supernatural happenings. And what he found amazed him. In 1750, the town council had condemned one "Black Nan" as a dangerous witch. Before she was put to death, she swore that someday she would return, and avenge herself. And now, in 1954, murder...with the slain men descendants of members of that old town council!

The old documents also gave the location of Black Nan's grave. When Henry reached it, he knew at once that he was on the right track. For only recently,

lightning had blasted it open...releasing its occupant for the awful revenge she sought! It put Henry in a tough spot. Not only did he have to convince the Chief of Police as to the guilty party, but he had to land a supernatural criminal! There was only one descendant of the old town council left, and Friday midnight was approaching. Doubtless he'd be the next victim! And so the Chief and Henry took up the vigil at Ed Green's house. As the long hours dragged on, nothing...until the stroke of midnight! It was then that a huge black cat stole out of the shadows and a cackling laugh announced Black Nan's presence. And there she was...ominous...evil...the light of death in her eyes! "Good heavens!" gasped the Chief. "You can't stop...that!"

But Henry could! Ancient witchcraft lore had given him the answer...a sprig of churchyard ivy from hallowed ground. As he extended it toward the witch, she gasped, then retreated, the black cat staying close to her. Once outside, however, she summoned all of her powers, and, swelling to giant proportions, surged forward. It was then that Henry Manners used modern magic...a thrown stick of dynamite that exploded in a mighty roar, blowing the witch and cat to smithereens!

There wasn't enough left of Black Nan ever to return. As for Sally Flint, she was fearful in her thanks, now that Tom, her sweetheart, was cleared. "I...I've got a confession to make to you," she faltered, but old Henry only laughed. "If you're going to tell me that you've been hiding Tom in your house ever since he escaped from jail," he chuckled, "I knew that all the time! You gave it away...when you told me how broken up he was about deaths that occurred after his jailbreak!"

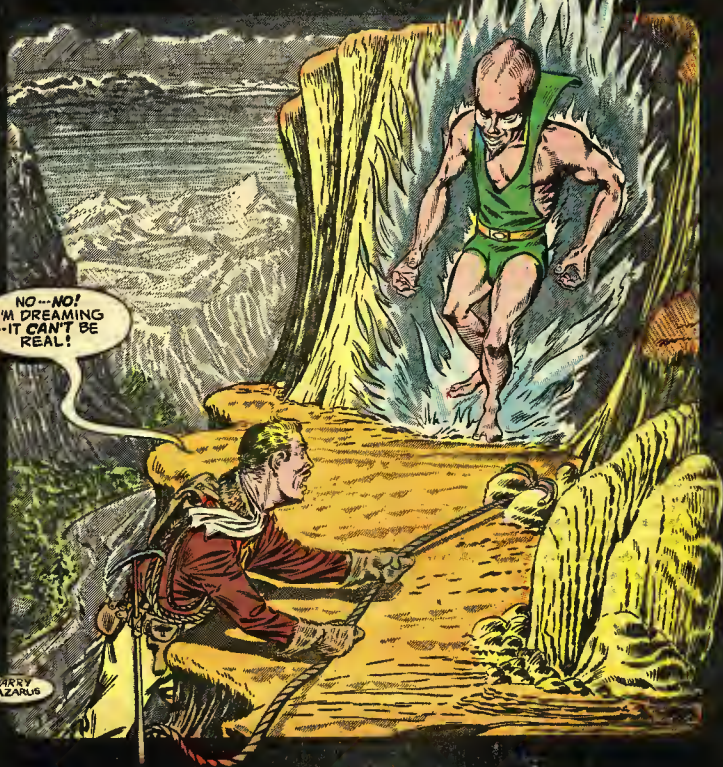


IT WAS A MIRACLE THAT BROUGHT HIM INTO THIS STRANGE AND TERRIFYING LAND  
... WITH ITS PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE! BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT THE MIRACLE  
COULD BACKFIRE... NOR OF THE DEADLY MENACE THAT LURKED WITHIN

# THE BLUE FLAME

NO...NO!  
I'M DREAMING  
...IT CAN'T BE  
REAL!

HARRY  
CAZARUS



ON THE SHEER SIDE OF AN UNEXPLORED  
HIMALAYA PEAK...

ON AND ON CARTER PUSHED  
... ALONE ... UNTIL ...

IT WAS HOURS LATER THAT HE AWOKE  
... TO PAIN-WRACKED CONSCIOUSNESS...

*OUT OF THE WHIRLING SNOW--A STRANGE,  
NIGHTMARE FIGURE...*

**FEAR NOT, MORTAL!**  
I HAVE COME FROM THE VALLEY  
OF THE **BLUE FLAME**...TO  
SAVE YOU!

IS...IS THIS  
DELIRIUM...OR...  
WHAT SORT OF  
CREATURE ARE  
YOU?







I AM CALLED MARZA!  
COME...FOR I CAN PROM-  
ISE AN END TO YOUR  
PAIN...AND ETERNAL  
LIFE!

UPWARD, UPWARD THROUGH THE RAGING  
STORM...UNTIL...

GREAT SCOTT!  
IT'S A FLAME...A  
BLUE FLAME...  
BARRING OUR  
WAY!

SAY RATHER, WEL-  
COMING US...TO A  
HAVEN SUCH AS  
MORTAL MAN  
HAS NEVER SEEN!



LOOK OUT,  
MARZA! YOU'LL BE  
...BURNED TO  
DEATH!

NO...NOT IN  
THE BLUE FLAME!  
COME--STAND  
AT MY  
SIDE!



FEAR NOT--THIS  
IS THE ONLY ENTRANCE  
TO THE VALLEY OF THE  
BLUE FLAME!

IT...IT DOESN'T  
SEEM TO HARM  
YOU! MAYBE I'LL  
CHANCE IT...



FEARFULLY, CARTER STEPPED INTO THE ROARING  
FLAME... ONLY TO FIND...

THROUGH THE FIERY WALL! AND  
JUST BEYOND IT...

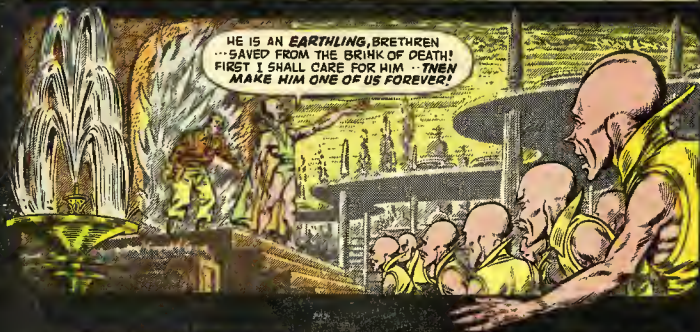
I...I CAN'T  
FEEL A THING!  
AND...IT'S TAKING  
MY PAIN AWAY!

THE ALL-  
POWERFUL FLAME  
CAN DO MANY  
THINGS! COME!

NO...NO!  
IT CAN'T BE  
REAL!



BEFORE THEM A STRANGE AND BEAUTIFUL CITY... A WEIRD AND WELCOMING POPULACE...



ITS HISTORY GOES BACK MILLIONS OF YEARS! KNOW THAT ONCE OUR RACE POPULATED THE EARTH, MORTAL!



HE DOESN'T KNOW IT... BUT I'M GOING TO MAKE IT PART OF MINE!

LEFT ALONE, CARTER WASTED NO TIME.







NOBODY'S SEEN ME YET! I'LL SNEAK OUT THROUGH THE FLAME--- AND COME BACK WITH REINFORCEMENTS!

THEN---SUDDENLY---



HOLD, TRAITOR! YOU CAN DEPART, BUT ONLY AS YOU CAME--- EMPTY-HANDED!

STAND BACK, MARZA! I'M LEAVING---AND NOBODY'S STOPPING ME!



YOU HEARD ME---AND I DON'T CARE HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE! GET BACK, OR I'LL FILL YOU WITH BULLETS!

BUT TO STEAL OUR JEWELS IS BLASPHEMY! LEAVE THEM, AND I PROMISE THAT YOU WILL LEAVE OUR VALLEY WITH NO REMEMBRANCE OF EVER BEING HERE!



THINK I'M A FOOL? I WANT TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING ABOUT IT! I WOULDN'T WANT TO FORGET A SINGLE STEP OF THE WAY!

BUT AS CARTER STEPPED INTO THE FLAME, THE COLOR CHANGED---AND THE BLUE GAVE WAY TO A RED, CRACKLING FURY---



H-HELP! THE FLAME---IT'S BURNING ME! IT'S---ARRGH!

THE SCREAMS CONTINUED---THEN GAVE WAY TO A GURGling MOAN---AND SILENCE! AND NOW THE FLAME WAS BLUE ONCE MORE---REACHING UPWARDS TOWARDS THE HEAVENS IN A PLEDGE OF PEACE---AND PROTECTION!



END

EDITOR



**H**ERE WE ARE again! It's another month...another issue...another chance to talk things over with our friends and supporters, the loyal fans of "Adventures Into The Unknown"!

We'd like to tell you more, at this session, about our great new "Truevision" process which has every town talking from Maine to California. We developed this process, and it's exclusively our own. Chalk it up as another "first" for the publishers of "Adventures Into The Unknown", who were the first ever to bring to readers an all-supernatural comics magazine. Now we have pioneered with "Truevision" because we know that the public is deeply interested in 3-dimensional pictorial representation. Until our process appeared, all that was available for readers were distorted, hard-to-grasp material which required the use of glasses and frequently involved considerable eyestrain. In contrast to this awkward and unwieldy system, "Truevision" brings to comics readers a brand-new and entirely different medium which possesses a thrilling and lifelike 3-dimension effect...

without glasses! An ingenious chemical-mechanical process, it makes possible pictures that seem to live and breathe... stories in full, glowing color...a magazine you'll never forget!

You'll find "Truevision" pervading this issue. You'll see it in "When Night Falls", an actionful thriller that seems virtually to leap from the pages. "The Blue Flame" will rocket you into a brand new world of strange, eerie adventure. "The Death Dive" tells of a supernatural vengeance that you'll watch happening before your eyes! And "The Witch Hunter", vibrant and living, will chill you from beginning to end!

We hope that you'll like this star-studded issue, and that you'll write and tell us your opinions. They carry a lot of weight with us...as a matter of fact, it was the reactions of our readers which gave us the go-ahead on "Truevision"! Address your letter to The Editor, "Adventures Into The Unknown", 45 West 45 Street, New York 36, N. Y. And now let's see what some of our other readers are saying!

"Dear Editor:

I'm a 3-D fan...never see any but 3-D movies or read any but 3-D comics, even though they charge a whole quarter for them. The other day, I picked up a copy of 'Adventures Into The Unknown', which advertised 'Truevision'...no glasses, and only 10 cents! Believe it or not, I found your magazine to be a more realistic supernatural comic than other 3-D comics with glasses! Your 'Truevision' story, 'Nightmare', was great! That's why I'm enclosing a check for \$1.20. Please enroll me for a year's subscription to 'Adventures Into The Unknown' with 'Truevision' features. Thanks loads!

--Dan Bates, Jr., Dallas, Texas"

"Dear Editor:

We just want to offer our sincere thanks and congratulations for your wonderful portrayal of 'Truevision'. Keep the good work coming our way!

--Shirley, Peggy, Joe, Mary, Esther, George and Nita, Struthers, Ohio"

"Dear Editor:

I've just finished 'Nightmare' in your 3-D effect, and think it was great! If you can make the whole of 'Adventures Into The Unknown' in 'Truevision', that would be something to see!

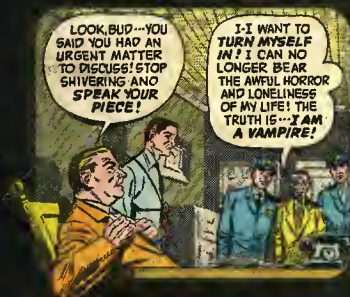
--H. Peacock, Bronx, New York"



MOST CRIMES ARE COMMITTED AT NIGHT... AND THE NIGHT SHELTERS THUGS, BANDITS, COLD-BLOODED KILLERS! BUT THERE IS ANOTHER EVIL... MOST TERRIFYING OF ALL... WHOSE AWFUL CAREER BEGINS...

# WHEN NIGHT FALLS





LOOK, BUD--YOU SAID YOU HAD AN URGENT MATTER TO DISCUSS! STOP SHIVERING AND SPEAK YOUR PIECE!

I-I WANT TO TURN MYSELF IN! I CAN NO LONGER BEAR THE AWFUL HORROR AND LONELINESS OF MY LIFE! THE TRUTH IS--I AM A VAMPIRE!



WNAAT? SEE HERE, YOU ...I CAN'T WASTE MY TIME...

LOOKS LIKE A NUT WARD CASE, CHIEF!



WHAT THE--?

YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME!

JUST ONE WAY TO QUIET THIS JOKER!



HOLY SMOKE! HE DIDN'T EVEN BUDGE!



FOOL! PERHAPS NOW YOU'LL RESPECT THE POWER OF A SUPERNATURAL BEING!

HE'S A-- LUNATIC! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!

BUT AS THE BULLETS PASSED HARMLESSLY THROUGH THE STRANGE VISITOR...



I-I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

FOOLS, I HAVE SPOKEN THE TRUTH! YOU HAVE SEEN MUCH, BUT WHEN NIGHT FALLS-- YOU WILL WITNESS MY MENDACIOUS CHANGE! BUT NOW-- LISTEN--





I AM CALLED...**KLIEST!** FATE ORDAINED MY GHASTLY DOOM! ALWAYS THERE WAS THE FRIGHTFUL HUNT FOR **SUSTENANCE**...ALWAYS THE PITIABLE SCREAMS OF MY VICTIMS! I HAD TO **KILL** TO SURVIVE...LIKE A JUNGLE BEAST!



BY NATURE I AM **NOT** EVIL...I HAVE ALWAYS HATED MYSELF! BUT NOW THAT **PLASMA** EXISTS--I NEED NOT **DESTROY** TO LIVE! PLEASE, YOU MUST **HELP** ME...

JUST WHAT ARE YOU DRIVING AT...**KLIEST?**



THESE ARE FOR YOU...IF YOU ASSIST ME! A VAMPIRE CAN PICK UP MUCH ON HIS PROWLs--

YOU MEAN YOU'LL PAY LIKE THIS... FOR A STEADY SUPPLY OF **PLASMA?** FRIEND, I THINK WE CAN DO **BUSINESS!**

THE HOURS TILL NIGHTFALL PASSED SWIFTLY! AND AS THE FIRST MOONBEAMS FELL THROUGH THE WINDOW...

CHIEF, LOOK! HE'S CHANGING!

IT COMES... MY UNBEARABLE TORMENT! **AAGH!**



WHEN THE TRANSFORMATION WAS COMPLETE...

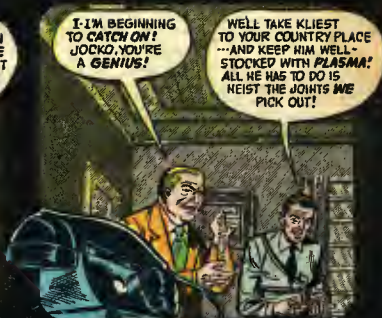


LET THIS BE OUR SECRET! NOW I MUST GO--THE AWFUL CRYING COMES UPON ME! BUT I WILL BE BACK TOMORROW...FOR YOUR **ANSWER!**



I-I THINK THIS IS TOO BIG FOR ME TO HANDLE! I'D BETTER TELL THE COM-**MISSIONER!**

NO...WAIT! I GOT AN IDEA WORTH MILLIONS! WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE PETTY GRAFT FOR LAYING OFF HOOB'S ANYMORE, CHIEF!



NEXT DAY--



MONTHS LATER...







ABOUT \$150,000,  
I'D SAY! THE HAULS GET  
BETTER ALL THE  
TIME!

YOU BETTER  
GO, KLIEST! YOU'LL  
FIND A COUPLE  
BOTTLES PLASMA  
WAITIN' FOR  
YOU!



I BETTER GO, CHIEF! BUT  
I'VE BEEN TNINKIN'...IF WE  
SEND KLIEST OUT TWICE AS  
OFTEN, WE GET RICH TWICE  
AS FAST!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT,  
JOCKO! BUT THERE ARE  
OTHER WAYS FOR ME  
TO GET RICH...EX-  
ACTLY TWICE AS  
FAST!

*FREED FROM THE HORRIBLE NIGHTLY DESTINY OF  
VAMPIRES, KLIEST WAS ABLE TO DISCOVER THE  
WORLD OF BOOKS AND MUSIC! TIME PASSED  
PLEASANTLY...*



HAVE A SPOT OF TEA,  
MR. KLIEST...TO CNEER YOU  
UP! YOU SEEM SUCH A TER-  
RIBLE MOODY AND UNHAPPY  
MAN!

I WAS, ANNIE  
...FOR A LONG  
TIME! BUT NOW,  
I AM CONTENT...  
EXCEPT FOR  
ONE THING!



AND WHAT WOULD  
THAT BE, SIR? PER-  
HAPS I CAN  
HELP!

NO... NO  
ONE CAN!

*MONTHS PASSED...JOCKO AND THE CHIEF GROWING  
EVER RICHER! THEN...*



BIG...BIGGEST HAUL  
YET! HIC! KLIEST... MY  
FRIEN'...YER A PAL!

YOU'RE DRUNK! YOU  
FOOL! THE ONE THING  
THAT CAN BUST UP  
THIS COZY SET-UP  
IS FOR YOU TO  
BLAB!



WELL, I'M NOT ALLOWING  
THAT! I'VE BEEN PLANNING  
THIS A LONG TIME, JOCKO  
...ONE OF US HAS TO  
GO!

YOU---YOU DIDN'T  
HAVE TO DO THAT!  
KILLING IS---  
EVIL!

YOU'RE A  
FINE ONE TO  
TALK! BESIDES,  
WE'RE SAFER  
THIS WAY!



IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS, THE CHIEF NOTICED KLIEST'S  
INCREASING UNHAPPINESS! THINKING TO CHEER HIM--

HEY, KLIEST, HERE'S  
AN EXTRA PLASMA RATION!  
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU  
HAVEN'T TOUCHED YESTER-  
DAY'S SUPPLY!

PLEASE,  
LEAVE ME!  
I DON'T  
---WANT  
IT!



THAT'S NO WAY  
TO TALK! WHAT'S  
THE MATTER---  
GETTING  
BORED?

HOW COULD YOU  
KNOW MY AGONY---  
THE AGONY OF ONE  
SHUNNED BY ALL!  
HAVEN'T YOU  
OBSERVED?---I  
LOVE ANNIE!



HMMM, THAT PUTS A NEW SLANT  
ON THINGS! BUT THAT'S EASILY  
SOLVED---SHE LIKES YOU TOO!

IF SHE KNEW  
WHAT I AM---SHE  
WOULD TURN IN  
HORROR AND  
LOATHING!



WAIT A MINUTE!  
FROM WHAT I'VE READ  
ABOUT VAMPIRES, THEY  
CAN TURN MORTALS IN-  
TO---ER---THINGS LIKE  
THEMSELVES! ANNIE  
WOULDN'T BE ANY  
TROUBLE AT ALL!

DO YOU  
THINK I WOULD  
VICTIMIZE  
SOMEONE I  
LOVE?---LEAVE,  
BEFORE I GROW  
ANGRY!



FOR A LONG TIME KLIEST WATCHED ANNIE  
CLOSELY! WHEN HE WAS SURE SHE DID CARE  
FOR HIM---

DO YOU BELIEVE IN LOVE,  
ANNIE? COULD SOMEONE LIKE  
YOU---MARRY A MAN WHO WAS  
ILL, DIFFERENT FROM  
OTHERS?

IF I LOVED  
SOMEONE, I'D  
LET NOTHING  
STAND BE-  
TWEEN US!







HOURS LATER...



AS THE LAST FLICKER OF LIGHT FELL OVER THE HORIZON...



KLIEST PROVED CORRECT! WHEN THE TRANSFORMED ANNIE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS...



ANNIE WAITED TILL ALL WAS DARK AND QUIET IN THE HOUSE! THEN...

THEY ARE BOTH---ASLEEP!  
AND NOW---I SHALL HAVE RE-  
VENGE! FOR THIS WORK---MY  
WINGS WILL HELP!



DELIBERATELY, ANNIE PROCEEDED TO HER REMAINING WORK...

IT WAS THE BEAT OF HUGE WINGS WHICH WOKE THE RESTLESS CHIEF---

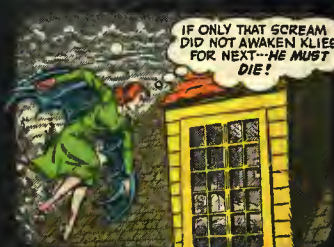
THAT YOU  
KLIEST? WHAT  
ARE YOU---  
ANNIE!

YES---ANNIE!  
AND I BRING  
YOU---DEATH!



SHE FOUND HIM STILL ASLEEP...

IF ONLY THAT SCREAM  
DID NOT AWAKEN KLIEST!  
FOR NEXT---HE MUST  
DIE!



A MORTAL CAN-  
NOT DESTROY A SUPER-  
NATURAL BEING---BUT I  
CAN! IT IS BETTER  
THIS WAY---ETERNAL  
AGONY WAS HIS  
DESTINY!



MOMENTS LATER, A LONE FIGURE STOOD ALOFT THE HOUSE---

YAAAAGH!

FAREWELL,  
MY BELOVED  
---I WILL JOIN  
YOU SOON!

FAREWELL,  
HATEFUL  
LIFE...



AND THEN, PLUNGED TO DESTRUCTION!

END



# START A FINE BUSINESS IN SPARE TIME!

## RUN THE BEST "SHOE STORE BUSINESS" IN YOUR TOWN!



**FREE!  
SELLING  
OUTFIT**

### QUICK-START SELLING OUTFIT FREE! YOU DON'T INVEST A CENT!

Now you can have a profitable "Shoe Store Business" right in your hands! None of the expenses of rent, light, fixtures, etc. of the ordinary shoe store. You just make money—up to \$84 a week extra on just 3 easy sales a day! You're independent, with an opportunity to make a handsome income as long as you care to take orders in a business with a never-ending demand, because EVERYBODY WEARS SHOES.

Just rush the coupon—I'll send you my Quick-Start shoe outfit right away, ABSOLUTELY FREE. Start by selling to friends, relatives, neighbors, to people where you work. Valuable actual samples, and demonstrators of calf skin leather are furnished free of cost to qualified men.

My Professional Selling Outfit contains cut-away demonstrator so your customers can actually feel the restful Velvet-eez Air Cushion innersole. Special measuring device—National Advertising reprints—door opener kits—polishing cloths—actual shoes—everything you need to build a profitable repeat business. Here's your chance to join me and get into the BIG MONEY shoe business now!

### OVER 160 FAST-SELLING STYLES FOR MEN & WOMEN!

Satisfy the needs and tastes of almost every person in your community. Sell air-cooled Nylon Mesh shoes with Velvet-eez air cushion innersoles—horsehide, kid, kangaroo leather shoes, slip-resistant Gro-Cork soles, oil-resistant Neoprene soles—every good type of dress, sport and work footwear—over 160 styles for men and women! Your customers will be amazed at the comfort they get from walking on 10,000 tiny air bubbles in Velvet-eez shoes. Also special steel shanks. You're way ahead of competition—you draw on our huge stock of over 200,000 pairs—thus your customers get the EXACT style, size and width they order! Your service ends tireless shopping from store to store trying to find a shoe that fits in a style the customer wants. Special features make it extra easy to sell gas station men, factory workers, waiters, etc. Because Mason Shoes are not sold in stores, people must buy from YOU and KEEP buying from you!

### Start Right NOW!

Just mail the coupon... I'll rush you my FREE Starting Outfit that includes EVERYTHING you need to start making exciting cash profits right away!

**TOP MEN MAKE \$5 TO  
\$10 IN AN HOUR!...  
YOU DON'T INVEST A  
CENT... MAKE BIG  
PROFITS... NO STORE  
OVERHEAD... EXCLU-  
SIVE SALES FEATURES  
BUILD YOUR REPEAT  
BUSINESS!**



**DON'T DELAY!**

### SEND FOR FREE OUTFIT!

MR. NED MASON, DEPT. MA-311  
MASON SHOE B'G., CO.  
CHIPPWA FALLS, WISCONSIN

Please rush me your FREE Quick-Start Shoe Selling Outfit featuring Air Cushion shoes, other fast sellers, everything I need to go into this profitable business, and start making immediate cash profits!

Name  AGE   
Address   
Town  State

Get Exciting EXTRA Awards This Year! This year we are celebrating our "Golden Anniversary" 50 years of bringing top quality shoes to the men and women of America. Mason Shoe Counselors will share in thousands of dollars of EXTRA prizes including valuable free merchandise awards and bonus checks! Right NOW is the perfect time to start in this profitable business!

### NATIONAL ADVERTISING CREATES HUGE DEMAND FOR VELVET-EEZ SHOES!

Due to our National Advertising, millions have seen Mason Velvet-eez Shoes in magazines and on Television. Now we need more good men to satisfy that demand and make plenty of extra cash for themselves. Just show the wonderful exclusive Velvet-eez Air Cushion that brings such comfort to men and women who stand on their feet all day. The Velvet-eez demonstrator you'll get free will make easy sales for you, as it has for others. The famed Good House-keeping Guarantee Seal is another Mason "extra" that keeps steady profits rolling in!



**MASON SHOE MFG. CO.**  
CHIPPWA FALLS, WIS.

# The SECRET

HOW ABOUT IT, POP,  
WANT A LIFT?

I WAS **HOPING**  
SOMEONE WOULD  
PASS THIS WAY!  
YOU'RE VERY KIND!

THE LONELY  
HIGHWAY WAS NO  
PLACE TO STOP  
FOR A HITCHHIKER!  
JIM PHELPS LEARNED  
THAT THE **HARD**  
WAY WHEN THE  
SUPERNATURAL  
CAME ALIVE--AND  
THE HORROR OF AN  
AWFUL REALIZATION  
CAME **TOO LATE!**

WHAT'S IN THAT BAG YOU'RE HOLDING,  
POP? THE WAY YOU'RE  
LATCHED ON TO IT, YOU'D  
THINK IT WAS A  
**MILLION BUCKS**  
OR SOMETHIN'!

OH, IT'S NOTHING  
LIKE THAT! IT'S  
JUST ONE OF  
MY DOLLS!

**DOLLS!** HA, NA! I KNEW YOU  
WERE GOOD FOR A LAUGH  
THE SECOND I SPOTTED  
YOU!

PLEASE--NOT  
SO LOUD! HE  
MIGHT HEAR  
YOU LAUGHING!



NOW LOOK, POP, I DON'T GO FOR THIS LOONEY STUFF! MAYBE YOU'D BETTER HOP OUT AN' GRAB YOURSELF ANOTHER RIDE!

BUT IT'S **TRUE!** MY DOLLS CAN HEAR-- AND TALK, TOO! I'LL **PROVE** IT TO YOU!

THEN--AMAZINGLY--

WHAT WAS ALL THAT **LAUGHING** ABOUT? WAS SOMEONE MAKING **FUN** OF ME?

**HOLY COW!** IT'S-- **TRUE!**

I--I HEARD IT WITH MY OWN EARS! YOU'VE **GOT** SOMETHING THERE, POP! THE BIGGEST THING **EVER!** ER-- NOW MANY DO YOU HAVE?

A HOUSE FULL OF 'EM --SOME LIFE SIZE--AN' WORTH SEEING!

WE'RE GOIN' TO YOUR PLACE RIGHT NOW, POP! I WANNA SEE **EVERYONE YOU GOT!**

IT'LL BE A **PLEASURE!** WE CAN GO RIGHT NOW-- IT'S NOT FAR!

WELL--HERE WE ARE! YOU'RE-- ER--**SURE** YOU WANT TO COME IN?

THERE'S NOTHIN' COULD KEEP ME OUT! I WANNA SEE THOSE **DOLLS!**

INSIDE--IT WAS AS IF A NIGHTMARE CAME ALIVE!

GOOD EVENING, WEDLEY!

SO YOU'VE BROUGHT A **VISITOR!**

**NOW NICE!**

IT--IT'S LIKE THEY WERE **LIVIN'!** WE CAN MAKE A **MILLION** OUT OF THIS! WHAT D'YA SAY--**PARTNER?**

WHY, I COULDN'T SELL MY DOLLS! THEY'RE MY **FRIENDS!**

I'VE GOT A NEW ONE OVER HERE IN MY WORKSHOP! LIKE TO SEE?

HE MUST HAVE SOME GIMMICK THAT MAKES THESE DOLLS SO LIFE-LIKE! I'LL FIND OUT WHAT MAKES 'EM TICK OR **BUST!**

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS ONE FOR TWO MONTHS! ALMOST HAD HIM GOING LIKE THE OTHERS, BUT THE MECHANISM BROKE DOWN!

THIS--ER--**MECHANISM**, FOR! GUESS IT'S KIND OF A **SECRET**, EH?

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT! I GUESS IT'S JUST THE WAY I PUT IT TO WORK THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!

THE MECHANISM THAT BROKE DOWN-- YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE IT AROUND, DO YOU?

WHY, **SURE!** I CHUCKED IT OVER IN THAT TUB! YOU CAN LOOK AT IT IF YOU WANT TO!

**YEAH... I SURE DO!**

I SURE... **NO!** IT'S A **HEART... A HUMAN HEART!**

SO THAT'S HOW YOUR DOLLS WORK! YOU USE **HUMAN HEARTS!** W-WHERE DO YOU GET THEM?

IT'S EASY...

--ALL I DO IS STAND ON THE HIGHWAY AND WAIT FOR SOME **FOOL** TO GIVE ME A **LIFT!**

**WHEEEET**

**THE END**



LIKE A VULTURE SEEKING ITS PREY, OLD LUPO STALKED THE STREETS OF ANCIENT LOMBARDY--AND MEN TREMBLED AT HIS APPROACH! DEATH STALKED IN HIS SHADOW--UNTIL FATE REACHED OUT FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE TO WRITE THE GHASTLY FINISH TO THE STORY OF--

# THE WITCH HUNTER



THIS WAS A TYPICAL DAY IN THE LIFE OF LUPO VOLPE - THE WITCH HUNTER!

IT IS DONE, SIGNOR VOLPE! THE ACCUSED WOMAN IS TIED IN THE SACK!

GOOD--THROW HER IN THE RIVER! IF SHE FLOATS, SHE IS SO EVIL A WITCH THAT EVEN THE RIVER REJECTS HER!

--BUT IF SHE SINKS, SHE IS INNOCENT! MY METHOD IS INFALLIBLE!

AIEEE!

AS USUAL -- IT ENDED WITH THE INNOCENT VICTIM AT THE RIVER BOTTOM!

YES, FOR YEARS OLD LUPO HAD PREYED ON SUPERSTITION TO ROB AND TERRORIZE THE POPULACE--

AH, WELL--AT LEAST SHE DIED INNOCENT! ER--OF COURSE, HER PROPERTY WILL GO TO PAY MY FEE AS OFFICIAL WITCH HUNTER!

OF COURSE, SIGNOR VOLPE!

IT'S LUPO! HIDE-- OR WE MAY BE THE NEXT VICTIMS TO SWELL THE OLD DEVIL'S FORTUNE!

IT WAS BITTER IRONY THAT TURNED THE OLD MAN'S EYES TOWARDS LOVELY, YOUTHFUL ANGELA MORI--

YOUR DAUGHTER IS BEAUTIFUL--AND I AM LONELY! I MAY DO HER THE HONOR OF MAKING HER MY WIFE, PIETRO!

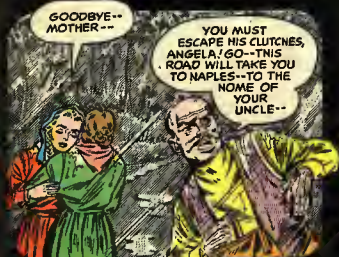
BUT YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO BE HER GRANDFATHER! NO, SIGNOR VOLPE-- I REFUSE!

YOU'LL PAY A BITTER PRICE FOR YOUR REFUSAL, PIETRO! JUST WAIT AND SEE!

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR THREATS--YOU CAN'T HAVE MY DAUGHTER!



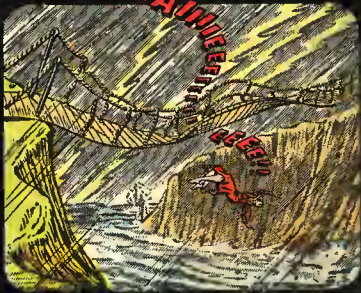
BUT THEY FEARED LUPO VOLPE'S POWER--  
SO THAT NIGHT--



AND SO ANGELA VANISHED INTO THE STORM!  
BUT A FEW MILES AWAY--



OH--HMM! I'M--  
LOSING MY FOOTING!  
I'M GOING  
OVER!



THEY DIDN'T FIND ANGELA'S BODY, AND NONE  
KNEW OF HER FATE! BUT WITHIN WEEKS--LUPO  
HAD HIS REVENGE!



SIGNOR LUPO, YOU  
CAN BE FRANK WITH ME,  
YOUR OLD SERVANT! IS  
IT NOT POSSIBLE THAT  
ANGELA MORI IS STILL  
ALIVE--HIDING  
SOMEWHERE?

OF COURSE  
SHE IS! BUT I COULDN'T  
LET THOSE STUPID  
PEASANTS DEFY ME--  
I HAD TO TEACH  
THEM A LESSON!



BUT REMEMBER--ANGELA  
STILL HAUNTS MY EVERY  
DREAM! **SHE MUST BE  
MINE!** WHEREVER SHE IS  
--**FINO HER--BRING  
HER TO ME!**

I --I  
UNDERSTAND,  
MASTER!

FOR MONTHS, OLD LUPO'S MEN SEARCHED THE  
PROVINCE--BUT IN VAIN! THEN, FINALLY--ONE DAY--

I HAVE WORD  
FOR THE MASTER  
--I MUST SEE  
HIM **AT ONCE!**

HE'S LOCKED HIM-  
SELF IN HIS STUDY FOR  
DAYS! BUT TRY KNOCK-  
ING--MAYBE HE'LL  
ANSWER!

SIGNOR--  
I HAVE  
NEWS--  
OF HER!

YOU'RE PROBABLY  
GOING TO TELL ME  
SHE CAN'T BE FOUND--  
LIKE ALL THE OTHERS!

WELL, I'M SICK OF  
YOUR EXCUSES--I'M  
GOING TO FIND THE  
GIRL IN MY OWN WAY!  
**LOOK THERE--  
IN THE CENTER  
OF THE FLOOR!**

I--I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND!  
A **SPIDER!**  
TIED TO A  
NAIL BY A  
STRING--

YES--IT'S A  
**WITCH'S CHARM** I  
HAVE LEARNED IN MY STUDY  
OF THE BLACK ARTS! AS THE  
SPIDER CIRCLES THE NAIL, THE  
STRING IS WOUND AROUND IT!  
AND WITH EVERY TURN--**THE  
ONE I LOVE IS BROUGHT  
CLOSER TO ME!**

EVEN NOW, THE  
SPIDER HAS ALMOST  
FINISHED HIS WORK!  
AND HE BRINGS--  
**ANGELA MORI!**

BUT SIGNOR--**IT  
CANNOT BE!** THE NEWS I  
BRING IS THAT HER BODY HAS  
JUST BEEN FOUND AT THE BOTTOM  
OF A GORGE--**DEAD FOR  
MONTHS!**





YOU LIE--THE  
WITCH'S CHARM CAN-  
NOT FAIL! I TELL YOU  
THAT BEFORE I DIE--  
I SHALL HOLD MY  
BEAUTIFUL ANGELA  
IN MY ARMS!

SUDDENLY--A HOLLOW KNOCKING!



THERE--YOU SEE?  
IT'S ANGELA--  
SHE HAD TO COME!  
--COME, MY  
DARLING! ENTER!

THE DOOR OPENED--TO AN UNSPEAK-  
ABLE HORROR FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE!



WHATEVER I AM?  
DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE  
--ANGELA MORI?

OH, NO--NO!  
WHATEVER YOU  
ARE--GET  
BACK!



YOUR MAGIC CALLED  
ME, LUPO! I HAD TO COME  
--EVEN FROM THE CLUTCH  
OF DEATH!

DON'T--  
DON'T  
COME  
N-NEAR--

AROUND, AROUND--AND EVEN AS THE CIRCLING  
SPIDER ENDED HIS WEIRD TASK, ANGELA TOUCHED  
OLD LUPO--TOUCHED HIM WITH DEATH'S HAND--



AARRGH!



L-LOOK! IT--IT  
HAPPENED JUST AS HE  
SWORE IT WOULD! SHE  
CAME BACK TO HIM--AND  
HE HELD ANGELA MORI  
IN HIS ARMS--BEFORE  
HE DIED!

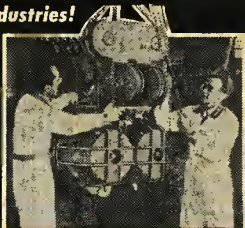
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YOU'VE  
ALWAYS  
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Enclosed please find my cash,  
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